

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RE APPLICATION OF : Timothy James Regan
FOR : **METHOD OF MODIFYING AN
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT**
SERIAL NO. : 10/018,867
FILED : December 19, 2001
EXAMINER : Laura M. Schillinger
ART UNIT : 2813
NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE MAILED : February 17, 2004
CONFIRMATION NO. : 8474
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : UDLZ 2 00016

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Karen M. Forsyth

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By:

Karen M. Forsyth



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INVENTOR(S) : Timothy James Regan
TITLE : METHOD OF MODIFYING AN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT
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RESPONSE TO STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Mail Stop Issue Fee

Dear Sir:

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication as to the allowance of the present application.

However, applicant respectfully submits the Statements of Reasons for Allowance are, in and of themselves, inappropriate. It is noted that the reasons for allowance are only warranted in instances in which "The record of the prosecution as a whole does not make clear his or her reasons for allowing a claim or claims." (37 CFR §1.104(e)(2001)). In the present case, applicant believes the record as a whole does make the reasons for allowance clear and, therefore, no statement by the Examiner is necessary or warranted. Furthermore, the applicant does not necessarily agree with each statement in the reasons for allowance.

Specifically, it has been indicated that the claims are allowed by importing interpretations into the claims in relation to the prior art that results in a potential imprecise and/or inaccurate understanding of the reasons. This places an unwarranted interpretation upon the claims. Such a characterization of the claims does not properly take into account applicant's claimed invention as reflected in the specification and the applicant's responses to the Examiner's office actions.

Therefore, while applicant believes the claims are allowable, applicant does not acquiesce that patentability resides in only the features, exactly as expressed in the claims, nor that each feature is required for patentability.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,
MINNICH & McKEE, LLP

May 7, 2004
Date



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